INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

T/GB2004/003020

| A CLASSI IPC 7 | FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER G01B7/14 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC | | | | | | | | | | |
| B. FIELDS | SEARCHED | | · | | | | | | | |
| Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 G01B | | | | | | | | | | |
| Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched | | | | | | | | | | |
| Electronic d | ata base consulted during the international search (name of data base | se and, where practical, search terms used |) | | | | | | | |
| EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ | | | | | | | | | | |
| C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | | | | | | | | |
| Category • | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the rela | evant passages | Relevant to claim No. | | | | | | | |
| X | US 5 760 593 A (SHEARD ANTHONY GE ET AL) 2 June 1998 (1998-06-02) cited in the application column 2, line 47 - column 3, lin column 6, lines 1-25 | 1–16 | | | | | | | | |
| X | US 4 604 905 A (RADEMACHER-DUBBIC KRISTIAN) 12 August 1986 (1986-08 column 2, line 15 - column 4, lin figures 1,2 | 1,2 | | | | | | | | |
| Х | EP 0 551 525 A (SHINAGAWA REFRACT 21 July 1993 (1993-07-21) column 2, lines 8-54 | 1,2 | | | | | | | | |
| | - | ·/ | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | _ | | | | | | | |
| X Furit | ner documents are listed in the continuation of box C. | χ Patent family members are listed i | n annex. | | | | | | | |
| ° Special ca | tegories of cited documents : | "T" later document published after the inte | | | | | | | | |
| 'A' docume consid | ent defining the general state of the art which is not lered to be of particular relevance | or priority date and not in conflict with cited to understand the principle or the | ory underlying the | | | | | | | |
| 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international 'X' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention | | | | | | | | | | |
| 'L' docume which | nt which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or | cannot be considered novel or cannot involve an inventive step when the do "Y" document of particular relevance; the c | cument is taken alone Ialmed Invention | | | | | | | |
| Of document reterring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means conter means document is combined with one or more other such document or ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled | | | | | | | | | | |
| 'P' docume | ent published prior to the international filing date but | in the art. *A* document member of the same patent family | | | | | | | | |
| Date of the | actual completion of the international search | Date of mailing of the International sea | rch report | | | | | | | |
| 19 | 9 October 2004 | 28/10/2004 | | | | | | | | |
| Name and n | nalling address of the ISA | Authorized officer | | | | | | | | |
| | European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk | | | | | | | | | |
| Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 | | Beyfuß, M | | | | | | | | |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

1-ternational Application No 1 . _T/GB2004/003020

| .(Continu | ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | T/GB2004/003020 |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| ategory ° | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| X | US 5 247 837 A (CORPRON GARY P) 28 September 1993 (1993-09-28) column 2, line 17 - column 4, line 37; figures 1,2 | 1,2 |
| A | US 4 128 776 A (BOQUIST CARL W ET AL) 5 December 1978 (1978-12-05) column 2, lines 33-63 | 1-16 |
| A | US 6 171 460 B1 (BILL JOHN L) 9 January 2001 (2001-01-09) column 8, line 10 - column 9, line 50 | 1-16 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | , |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

national Application No

| | | | | 101/48 | 2004/003020 |
|--|----|---------------------|------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | | Patent tamily member(s) | Publication date |
| US 5760593 | A | 02-06-1998 | AU | 1801197 A | 02-09-1997 |
| | | | CA | 2244886 A1 | 21-08-1997 |
| | | | DE | 69715156 D1 | 10-10-2002 |
| | | | DE | 69715156 T2 | 17-04-2003 |
| | | | EP | 0880672 A1 | 02-12-1998 |
| | | | WO | 9730326 A1 | 21-08-1997 |
| | | | JP | 2000504836 T | 18-04-2000 |
| US 4604905 | A | 12-08-1986 | EP | 0113928 A1 | 25-07-1984 |
| | | | ΑT | 19153 T | 15-04-1986 |
| | | | ΑU | 555521 B2 | 25-09-1986 |
| | | | AU | 2415484 A | 15-08-1984 |
| | | | DE | 3362838 D1 | 15-05-1986 |
| | | | WO | 8402976 A1 | 02-08-1984 |
| | | | JP | 5027804 B | 22-04-1993 |
| | | | JP | 60500226 T | 21-02-1985 |
| EP 0551525 | A | 21-07-1993 | JP | 2540253 B2 | 02-10-1996 |
| ÷ | | | JP | 6138067 A | 20-05-1994 |
| | | | DE | 69227176 D1 | 05-11-1998 |
| | | | DE | 69227176 T2 | 18-02-1999 |
| | | | EP | 0551525 A1 | 21-07-1993 |
| | | | FΙ | 931552 A | 06-04-1993 |
| | | | US | 5495176 A | 27-02-1996 |
| | | | ΑT | 171782 T | 15-10-1998 |
| | | | CA | 2093440 A1 | 07-02-1993 |
| | | | MO | 9303354 A1 | 18-02-1993 |
| US 5247837 | A | 28-09-1993 | NONE | | |
| US 4128776 | Α | 05-12-1978 | CA | 1073029 A1 | 04-03-1980 |
| | | | DE | 2753198 A1 | 01-06-1978 |
| | | | FR | 2372541 A1 | 23-06-1978 |
| | | | GB | 1560968 A | 13-02-1980 |
| | | | JP | 53091598 A | 11-08-1978 |
| US 6171460 | B1 | 09-01-2001 | WO | 9732720 A1 | 12-09-1997 |